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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/492,568	01/28/2000	Akihiro Ouchi	684.2961	1031

5514 7590 02/26/2002

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EXAMINER

JORGENSEN, LELAND R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2675

DATE MAILED: 02/26/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

[Handwritten signature]

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/492,568

Applicant(s)

OUCHI, AKIHIRO

Examiner

Leland R. Jorgensen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 January 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 1/28/2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figures 5 and 6 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
2. The drawings are objected to because figure 1, item 2m, is misspelled as “momory” rather than “memory.” A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 1 recites the limitation “the picture display unit” in lines 9 – 10, 11, 14, and 18. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. This problem can be corrected by amending line 5 of claim 1 to read “picture display unit” rather than “picture display apparatus.” Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5. The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

6. Claims 1 - 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lin et al, USPN 6,329,981.

Claim 1

Claim 1 describes a picture display apparatus for displaying a picture in response to inputted picture signals of arbitrary format. The apparatus comprises the following.

Picture Display Unit. Claim 1 describes a picture display apparatus having an arranged matrix of dots for picture display. For purposes of examination, the examiner will assume that term "picture display apparatus" should be the "picture display unit." Lin teaches a picture display apparatus 310, a flat panel display. Lin, figure 2 and col. 6, lines 26 -30.

Drive Means. Claim 1 describes a picture display unit drive means for converting the inputted picture signal into display picture signals for display on the picture display unit. The drive means also generates drive timing signals for driving the picture display unit. Lin teaches picture display unit drive means, specifically a processing circuit for driving and controlling flat panel display unit 325. The processing circuit generated timing signals, labeled clocking signals,

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and converts inputted picture signals to display picture signals, labeled control signals, to drive the display unit. Lin, figure 2 and col. 7, lines 13 – 26.

Display Position Detection Means. Claim 1 describes a display position detection means for detecting a picture display position on the picture display unit based on the display picture signals and the drive timing signals. Lin teaches a video detection circuit 320a that detects the signals generated by the drive means. Lin, figures 2 and 3, col. 6, lines 63 – 66.

Display Position Control Means. Claim 1 describes a display position control means for controlling admission of the inputted picture signals to the picture display unit drive means based on the detected display position data from the display position detection means. Lin teaches a logic circuit 340 that control the admission of inputted picture signals to the picture display unit drive means based on the signal received from the drive means. Lin, figures 2 and 3, col. 6, line 66 – col. 7, line 3, col. 10, lines 35 – 41, 64 – 67, and col. 14, lines 39 – 44.

Claim 2

Claim 2 is dependant on claim 1 and adds the following.

Drive Means

The picture display unit drive means includes a memory for storing the inputted picture signal. The drive means generates a horizontal synchronizing signal, a vertical synchronizing signal, and a pixel clock signal as to the display picture signals. Lin teaches a memory, 571. Lin, figure 7E and col. 12, lines 52 – 55. Lin also teaches a horizontal synchronizing signal, Lin, col. 9 line 66 – col. 10, line 3; a vertical synchronizing signal, col. 15, lines 4 – 15; and a pixel clock signal, col. 16, lines 31 – 33. See also Lin, figure 4A, col. 7, lines 64 – 66, and figure 6A, col. 9, lines 22 – 26.

Claim 3

Claim 3 is dependant on Claim 2 and adds the following.

Display Position Control Means

The display position control means does the following.

Detects Horizontal Commencement Position. Detects a horizontal commencement position of a picture display on the picture display unit in terms of a number of pixel clock signals from a rise of the horizontal synchronizing signal until first detection of the display picture signals. Lin teaches detection of the horizontal commencement position. Lin, figure 8A and col. 14, lines 62 – 64.

Detects Horizontal Termination Position. Detects a horizontal termination position of the picture in terms of a number of the pixel clock signals from the rise of the horizontal synchronizing signal until the termination of the display picture signals, respectfully during one horizontal scanning period. Lin teaches detection of the horizontal termination position. Lin, figure 8A and col. 14, lines 64 – 66.

Detects Vertical Commencement Position. Detects a vertical commencement position of the picture in terms of the number of horizontal synchronizing signals from a rise of the vertical synchronizing signal until first detection of the display picture signals. Lin teaches detection of the vertical commencement position. Lin, figure 8A and col. 14, lines 57 – 59.

Detects Vertical Termination Position. Detects a vertical termination position of the picture in terms of a number of horizontal synchronizing signals from the rise of the vertical synchronizing signal until the termination of the display picture signals, respectfully in one

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vertical scanning period. Lin teaches detection of the vertical termination position. Lin, figure 8A and col. 14, lines 60 – 61.

Display Position Control Means

The display position control means controls a timing of admitting the inputted picture signals into the picture memory in the picture display unit drive means, based on a difference between detected position data and set timing data for outputting display picture signals, thereby automatically adjusting a picture display position. Lin teaches a video mode detection circuit 320a that performs the same function. Lin, col. 6, line 52 – col. 7, line 3.

Claim 4

Claim 4 is dependant on Claim 3 and adds the following.

Display Position Control Means

The display position control means is further equipped with a preset memory for storing ideal values for timing of writing in the picture memory respectively corresponding to a plurality of formats of the input picture signals, a means for judging the format of the inputted picture signals based on an inputted horizontal synchronizing signal and an inputted vertical synchronizing signal accompanying the inputted picture signals, and a means for reading out the ideal value of the judged format of the inputted display picture signals. Lin also teaches a preset memory for storing and judging the formatting value. Lin, figure 3 and col. 7, lines 39 – 50.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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Schiefer et al, USPN 6,177,922, teaches a display controller having a microcontroller that reads back status information from the drive controller and adjusts the drive input..

Furuhashi et al, USPN 5,909,205, teaches a liquid crystal display control device having memory access reconciling signal.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leland Jorgensen whose telephone number is 703-305-2650. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. through 3:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven J. Saras can be reached on 703-305-9720.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office, telephone number (703) 306-0377.



STEVEN SARAS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

lrj
February 14, 2002